

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, BENGAL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BURDWAN AGRICULTURAL STATION

FOR THE YEAR 1911-1912.



CALCUTTA:

BENGAL SECRETARIAT BOOK DEPÔT.

1913.

[Price—Indian, 1 anna ; English, 1d.]









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Published at the BENGAL SECRETARIAT BOOK DEPÔT,  
Writers' Buildings, Calcutta.

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# ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BURDWAN AGRICULTURAL STATION ENDING 30TH JUNE 1912.

*Introduction.*—This station finished experimental work in 1910 when it was decided to carry out only demonstration work, and a cropping scheme was arranged according to the most successful experimental work that has been done at this farm.

This included the manuring of bonemeal and green manuring of *dhaincha* on paddy and rotation of jute and paddy on the same land in the same year, besides a certain area under sugarcane, and this report embodies the results of the work carried out during the first year ending 30th June 1912.

*Area and cropping scheme.*—The area of this farm is 32 acres, of which  $5\frac{1}{2}$  acres are high barren land. Five acres of this barren land was cultivated and put under cotton, soybean and *dhaincha* to prevent the area running to jungle. Very little outturn was obtained from this area.

During the year under report the following crops were grown on the following areas:—

		Area in acres.
Paddy—(1)	Unmanured, 3 acres	3
(2)	{ Bonemeal, 3 mds. } { Saltpetre, 1 md. } per acre	3
(3)	<i>Dhaincha</i> green manure	3
(4)	After jute	3
(5)	Unmanured	8
Jute for fibre (before paddy)		3
Seed		1
Sugarcane—Newly planted	$2\frac{1}{2}$ acres	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
Ratooned	2 „	
<i>Dhaincha</i>		1
Acres, single crop		26 $\frac{1}{2}$
„ double „		3

The following table shows the average outturn of each crop per acre:—

	Area.	Yield per acre.
(a) Paddy—(1) Unmanured ..	31 acres	20 mds.
(2) { Bonemeal, 3 mds. } { Saltpetre, 1 „ }	3 „	30 „
(3) <i>Dhaincha</i> green manure	3 „	29½ „
(4) After jute ...	3 „	24½ „
(b) Jute (before paddy) ..	3 „	4 mds. fibre.
Seed ...	1 acre	{ 5 „ 8 mds. seed.
(c) Sugarcane (unmanured) ...	2½ acres	36 mds <i>gur</i> .
Ratooned cane (unmanured)	2 „	30 „
<i>Dhaincha</i> ...	1 acre	6 „ seed.

From the figures it will be seen that jute failed, sugarcane was only fair and paddy was good.

Jute failed on account of drought, while sugarcane was poor on account of the crop being unmanured. The ratooned cane yielded almost as high as the newly planted cane.

Paddy was good. The unmanured crop gave an average outturn of 20 maunds per acre, while the increase in yield per acre due to bonemeal *plus* saltpetre was 10 maunds and for *dhaincha* green manure 9½ maunds per acre. The outturn of paddy after jute was 4½ maunds per acre better than the unmanured crop, showing that it is possible to obtain a good crop of paddy even after a jute crop has been taken off the same land in the same year.

The following table gives the receipts and expenditure incurred at this farm during the period under review:—

Expenditure.	Rs.	A.	P.	Receipt.	Rs.	A.	P.
Salary and travelling allowance ...	803	4	9	Farm produce	1,753	10	10
Capital ...	304	10	3				
Stamps and stationery	31	12	3				
Contingencies ...	186	4	1				
Rent and taxes ...	94	15	9				
Manure ...	229	0	9				
Cattle food ...	78	3	6				
Expenses on cotton and soybean ...	126	5	0	Balance (loss)	2,572	14	1
Labour ...	2,436	0	7				
	4,326	8	11		4,326	8	11



It is thus seen that the results of the working of the first year resulted in a loss of Rs. 2,572-14-1. If the cost of superintendence, capital outlay (buildings) and amount spent on cotton and soybean be deducted, there is still a loss of Rs. 1,502-10-1, showing that there is still very much to be done before the farm can be said to be worked in a practical and economical manner.

However demonstration work is totally different from experimental; and as the work of our subordinates hitherto has been experimental, time must be given to enable them to learn the new work.

The first essential to the carrying out of the above work economically and successfully is an energetic Superintendent. Babu Debi Prosad Choubey, who had been in charge of the farm for 24 years, had grown old when it was decided to take up demonstration work, but it was not till January 1912 that it was decided to pension him off and place a younger and more energetic man in his place. This took place at the end of the first working season.

However, although economically the results are not so good, the paddy results are well worth noting; and as we now have a young energetic Superintendent Babu J. C. De, in charge, the outlook for future results is much brighter.

*Management.*—Babu D. P. Choubey was in charge of the farm up to January 1912, when, owing to the munificence of the Maharajadhiraj of Burdwan, he took a well earned pension.

Babu J. C. De was in charge from January to June, during which time he discharged his duties in an energetic manner.

This farm is a private one belonging to the Maharajadhiraj of Burdwan who provides Rs. 2,500 for annual expenses. The management rests with the Bengal Agricultural Department. During the period under review Mr. Dobbs supervised the work from April till June, Mr. Sherrard from June till October, and Mr. Smith from October till the end of the year.

F. SMITH,

*Deputy Director of Agriculture, Bengal.*











